

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOGADI 01122 181438Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----018187 181440Z /42
O 181330Z MAY 78 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6335

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 1122

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3
TAGS: MASS, SO, US
SUBJ: NO IMMEDIATE RESPONSE TO MILITARY SURVEY MISSION PROPOSAL

REFS: A) STATE 125217; B) STATE 125831

1. PRESIDENT SIAD RECEIVED ME THIS AFTERNOON, MAY 18, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE REGULAR THURSDAY MEETING OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE. I DREW ON THE TALKING POINTS IN REFTEL, SUMMARIZED THE CONTENTS OF THE NOTE PROPOSING THE MILITARY SURVEY MISSION, AND SAID WE HOPED FOR AN EARLY RESPONSE. THE SOMALI LEADER EXPRESSED CONSIDERABLE DISAPPOINTMENT WITH THE DELAY IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MILITARY RELATIONSHIP. HE DID NOT STUDY THE NOTE WITH ANY CARE, BUT INSTEAD DISCOURSED AT SOME LENGTH ON THE CUBAN AND SOVIET THREAT TO AFRICA AND THE HORN AREA. HE ARGUED THAT THE AMERICAN REACTION TO THE SOVIET THREATS ALL OVER THE CONTINENT WAS DISHEARTENING TO AMERICA'S FRIENDS. THE SAUDIS HE SAID ARE LOOKING TO YOU FOR SOME SIGNS OF ENCOURAGEMENT. "THEY ARE ALREADY MORE CONCERNED FOR WHAT HAPPENS HERE IN SOMALIA THAN I AM, AND THEY HAVE MUCH TO LOSE." THE SOVIETS, HE CONTINUED, ARE NOT CONSTRAINED BY DECLARATIONS OF YOUR CONCERN. "THEY ARE LOOKING FOR DEEDS", HE ADDED.

2. I REVIEWED FOR SIAD AGAIN SOME OF THE REQUIREMENTS THE USG FACED IN IMPLEMENTING AN ARMS SUPPLY RELATIONSHIP. I TOLD HIM HOW IMPORTANT IT WAS THAT THERE BE MUTUAL CONFIDENCE. I CAUTIONED

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HIM THAT THERE COULD BE NO COOPERATION WITHOUT FULL CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL, AND THAT HIS ACTIVITIES WOULD BE WATCHED WITH GREAT CARE. IN ANOTHER CONTEXT HE AFFIRMED AGAIN THAT HE DID NOT HAVE COMPLETE CONTROL OVER THE WSLF. INFLUENCE, HE SAID, "YES, BUT NO MAN CAN KNOW EVERYTHING THAT EVERYONE ELSE IS DOING".

3. SIAD INDICATED HE WOULD EXAMINE THE NOTE LATER. I ALSO GAVE

HIM A COPY OF THE ARMS SALES POLICY STATEMENT OF MAY 19, 1977
MENTIONED IN THE NOTE. I TOLD HIM I PLANNED TO DEPART FOR NAIROBI
ON SUNDAY. HE WISHED ME WELL, BUT DID NOT OFFER TO PROVIDE ME WITH
A RESPONSE BEFORE MY DEPARTURE.

4. I ALSO USED THE OPPORTUNITY TO REMIND HIM OF OUR REQUIREMENT TO
INSPECT SOME OF THE DISPLACED PERSONS' CAMPS. HE SAID HE WOULD
SEND FIRM ORDERS TO THE MINISTRY TO SEE THAT WE RECEIVED THE
NECESSARY PERMISSION.
LOUGHRAN

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Message Attributes

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